**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 59‑1‑425, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE BEGINNING AND LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL TERM, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY PROPOSE AN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL SCHEDULE PLAN THAT PROVIDES FOR THE OPERATION OF SCHOOLS ON A FOUR-DAY WEEKLY CALENDAR.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 59‑1‑425 of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 260 of 2006, is amended by adding an appropriately lettered subsection at the end to read:

“( ) Notwithstanding another provision of law, a school district board of trustees may propose an alternative school schedule plan providing for the operation of schools on a four‑day weekly calendar pursuant to guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education. An alternative school schedule plan must meet the equivalent number of instructional hours of the statutory one hundred eighty day school term and must conform annual salaries for certified teachers accordingly, taking into account the ten scheduled staff development days. The plan also must be used in calculating the average daily membership for the district. An alternative school schedule plan must be submitted for approval by the State Department of Education by June first of the calendar year in which the alternative schedule will be implemented.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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